



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
HARNESS RACING COMMISSION

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Minutes of the
Delaware Harness Racing Commission Meeting
PUBLIC SESSION

October 16, 2018 at 10:00 AM
Delaware Department of Agriculture - Conference Room

Commission Members Present

Beverly Steele	Chairman
Patt Wagner	Vice Chairman
Stephanie Liguori	Commissioner
Jack Berberian	Commissioner

Others Present

DHRC Executive Director Mark Davis, DOJ Stacey Cohee, Dover Downs Vice President of Racing Charles Lockhart, Sr., Dover Downs Sr. Director of Racing John Hensley, Harrington Raceway Asst. GM Matt Sparacino, Harrington Raceway Facilities Manager Karen Craft, DSOA Executive Director Sal DiMario.

Twin River representatives: Erin Brignola, Esq., Denis McGlynn, Craig Eaton, Lloyd Levenson, Esq., and John Taylor.

Commissioner Staats was unable to attend.

Minutes: Donna Krol

CALL TO ORDER:

At 10:05 a.m. Chairman Steele called the public session of the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

Immediately following the "Call to Order," the DHRC Commission dismissed to Executive Session. The Commission returned to Public Session after the Executive Session was complete.

Executive Session:

See Executive Session minutes.

Return to Public Session:

At 10:35 a.m. Chairman Steele called the public session of the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**Delaware Harness Racing Commission – Public Session
October 16, 2018**

TWIN RIVER PRESENTATION:

In response to the conditional license issued to Dover Downs at the DHRC September meeting, representatives from Twin River Worldwide Holdings, Inc. made a presentation to the Commission regarding the merger with Dover Downs. After the presentation was complete the Commission had an opportunity to ask various questions of the representatives. Chairman Steele asked if there would be any changes to the racing license regarding minimum number of race days as well as other requirements. John Taylor answered stating that Twin River understands the requirements and they will be upheld. Andrew Kerber reviewed the Del 3 10023 statute. Andrew received a letter previously from Charles Lockhart outlining Twin Rivers compliance with the requirements. Andrew stated that from a legal standpoint Twin River is in compliance with the license requirements. Mark Davis noted that if any changes do occur the Commission must be notified.

Beth Steele entertained a motion to approve the Dover Downs license without any conditions. Motion was made by Jack Berberian and seconded by Patt Wagner. Motion passed with unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Public minutes from the September 11, 2018 Commission Meeting were reviewed. Chairman Steele entertained a motion to approve the public minutes. Motion was made by Commissioner Berberian and seconded by Commissioner Liguori. Motion passed with unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

Reports: Executive Director, Racing Officials, Veterinarian:

Executive Director: Activity Summary Report

Mark Davis reviewed the Activity Summary Report's provided to the Commission. Report covers the time period of September 1 through September 30, 2018.

Racing statistics: June

Total # of Live Racing Days = 12

Total # Live Races = 157

Average # Races per Day = 13

Total # of Starters = 1210

Delaware Owned/Trained purse retention: Average = 78.6%

*Delaware Owned now includes horses that are full/partially owned or trained by Delaware residents.

License statistics:

Total # licenses issued = 113

Total Monthly = \$9,700.00/YTD Total = \$72,950.00.

(Total Monthly figures include Licenses, Fingerprints, Appeals and Fines)

Personnel Activities:

N/A

**Delaware Harness Racing Commission – Public Session
October 16, 2018**

Meetings/Events attended by Mark Davis:

Commission Meeting 9-11-18
9-17-18 Harrington Quillen Memorial Race and Secretary's Race
9-26-18 Subpoena meeting

Racing Official Report - Presiding Judge:

Reported by: Mark Davis
Total # of Rulings: 4
Total fine amount: \$900.00

Racing Official Report - Chief Investigator:

Reported by: Mark Davis
Total # Human Drug Tests = 13
Positive result: None
Total # Breathalyzer tests = 588 average 49/day, Positive result – None
Total # Truck & Trailer Searches completed = 3 no violations/seizures

Racing Official Report - Veterinarian:

Reported by: Mark Davis
Total # of starters = 1,210
Post- Race Testing:
157 Blood samples were collected.
120 Urine samples
37 incomplete collections (no urine)
Catch Rate = 75.3%, average time per catch was 32.7 minutes
Cobalt Analysis: 21 Pre Race samples collected
Judge's Special Tests: 1
Horse Euthanized On/Off Track: None
Accident On/Off Track: Off Track none, On Track 1 horse fell and was injured

OUT OF COMPETITION TESTING:

NONE

FREEDOM of INFORMATION ACT Requests:

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sal DiMario asked how the process for interviewing for the Presiding Judge position was going. Mark Davis answered that interviews were in the process of being scheduled.

CLOSE OF PUBLIC MEETING:

With no further public business to discuss, Chairman Steele made a motion to adjourn the public session. Motion was carried by Commissioner Berberian and seconded by Commissioner Liguori.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Next Regular Commission Meeting is scheduled for *Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 10:00 AM*

Next Rules Committee Meeting is tentatively scheduled for *Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at 10:00 AM*

Next DSBF Board Meeting is scheduled for *Wednesday, December 5, 2018.*